

REMARKS

In the outstanding official action, the drawing was objected to because the element boxes in Figs. 1, 2, 5 and 6 were not labeled. In response, Replacement Sheets are herewith provided in which Figs. 1, 2, 5 and 6 have been amended in order to incorporate the required labels for the various element boxes. Additionally, Figs. 1 and 2 have been amended to correct a drafting error by showing the negative pole of the input voltage V_i being connected to ground, in order to conform the drawing to the specification, wherein it is expressly disclosed that this connection is present (page 4, line 16 for Fig. 1, and page 5, lines 2-3 for Fig. 2).

In order to place the instant application in better condition for allowance, a new and more descriptive title has been provided as suggested, and a new abstract has been presented to correct various informalities in the originally-filed abstract. With regard to the objection to the disclosure for failing to include section titles, this objection is respectfully traversed, since such section headings are not required in accordance with MPEP §608.01(a).

On the merits, claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being fully anticipated by Schwartz et al, for the reasons of record. In response, independent claims 1 and 14 are herewith amended in order to more particularly and precisely recite the novel and unobvious features of the instant

invention, and it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 14, as herewith amended, and the remaining claims depending therefrom, are now clearly patentably distinguishable over the cited and applied reference for the reasons detailed below.

More particularly, the independent claims have been amended to add the limitation that the inductor is also connected to ground by the switch, as expressly shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and as described in the associated portion of the specification. In the reference, on the contrary, the corresponding inductor is clearly shown in cited Fig. 4 as having one end coupled to the voltage input and the other end connected to an amplifier input, with neither end of the inductor being directly connected to ground as now more precisely claimed.

Furthermore, the independent claims recite that the operating frequency is controlled to be substantially proportional to the output voltage to obtain a substantially constant average duration of the on-period as a function of the output voltage. On the contrary, the cited portion of the reference (claim 10, incorporating the cited teaching at col. 7, line 18) expressly requires that the voltage is maintained substantially constant and the first period and the second period have a combined period that is constant except when the level of current exceeds a first threshold.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the instant invention, as now more clearly and precisely recited in the

independent claims, is clearly distinguishable over the cited and applied reference in both structure and operation.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the objections presented in the Action have been addressed and corrected as appropriate, and that the currently-pending claims, as herein amended, define an invention which is clearly patentably distinguishable. Accordingly, allowance of the instant application is respectfully submitted to be justified at the present time, and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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